

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

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NSC-10 OPR-02 PA-03 RSC-01 SS-15 SY-10 PRS-01 A-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187379

C O R R E C T E D COPY (OMISSION OF TEXT IN PARA 1 SUB-PARA C)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, BL

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: LA PAZ 5635

1. THIS CABLE RESPONDS TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTTEL.
A. TRAVEL PLANS - 1) DEPARTMENT PREFERS TO FLY OFFICIAL PARTY FROM NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON EVENING OF OCTOBER 15, AS THIS WOULD REDUCE SECURITY AND LOGISTICS PROBLEMS AND PRECLUDE POSSIBLE DELAY ARRIVAL CERMONY IN EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER. PARTY WOULD FLY TO ANDREWS AFB AND SPEND NIGHT OF OCTOBER 15 IN BLAIR HOUSE. 2) WE ARE PLANNING CONCURRENT SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS FOR OTHER MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL DELEGATION IN WHITE HOUSE CABINET ROOM. WHEN TWO PRESIDENTS GO TO OVAL OFFICE FOR MEETING, MRS. NIXON REMAINS BEHIND HOSTING TEA FOR LADIES AND OTHER OFFICIALS OF WELCOMING PARTY.
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B. OFFICIAL DELEGATION - PLEASE CONFIRM AMBASSADOR CARLOS COSTA DU RELS ASAP.

C. OTHER MEMBERS OF PARTY - BOLIVIAN EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED NAMES OF ALL BUT MILITARY AIDES AND NEWSPAPER REP.

PLEASE PROVIDE THESE NAMES ASAP. VALET, HAIRDRESSER AND ONE OR TWO OTHERS WILL BE ABLE TO STAY AT BLAIR HOUSE WITH OFFICIAL DELEGATION. OTHERS WILL BE LODGED AT NEAR-BY HAY-

ADAMS HOTEL. GOB WILL HAVE TO PAY HOTEL AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR THOSE MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL PARTY NOT LODGED AT BLAIR HOUSE (SEE CA-999 OF JAN. 31, 1972).

D. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION-1) WE ASSUME BOLIVIA'S "GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE" THEME WILL FOLLOW FAMILIAR "BO-

LIVIA THE HEARTLAND" THESIS, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER DETAILS WHICH MAY BECOME AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY. IT APPEARS THAT BANZER BELIEVES BOLIVIA'S "GEOPOLITICAL IMPORTANCE" SERVES TO SUPPORT ANTICIPATED REQUESTS FOR INCREASED ECONOMIC AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING PROGRAM LOAN. 2) WHILE WE AGREE THAT BANZER WILL PROBABLY REQUEST SUPPORT IN FORM OF PROGRAM LOAN, EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE ANY EXPECTATION THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROGRAM LOAN AT THIS TIME. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE SOLUTION TO FISCAL PROBLEM LIES WITH EFFECTIVE GOB REMEDIAL ACTION, NOT ADDITIONAL PROGRAM LENDING OR GOB BORROWING FROM PRIVATE SOURCES. FYI IN DISCUSSIONS REGARDING ASSISTANCE WE PLAN TO STRESS RECENT AID LEVELS, OUR EFFORTS TO SATISFY GOB'S WHEAT REQUIREMENTS, LOAN DESCRIBED STATE 181748 AND PLANS FOR AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION AND HEALTH SECTORS END FYI.

E. SECRETARY'S LUNCHEON - THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CAVEAT THAT SENATE HAS NOT YET CONFIRMED NEW SECRETARY AND THAT ALL PLANS WILL BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE FOLLOWING HIS CONFIRMATION. 1) WE EXPECT SECRETARY WILL HOST LUNCHEON FOR APPROXIMATELY 100 GUESTS. GUESTS NORMALLY INCLUDE USG OFFICIALS, CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS AND PROMINENT FIGURES IN BUSINESS AND CULTURAL SECTORS (AND THEIR WIVES) HAVING INTEREST IN COUNTRY REPRESENTED. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATION IS USUALLY LIMITED. CHARLES MEYER IS ON SUGGESTED LIST FOR STATE DINNER. 2) WE HAVE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ONE HOUR CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING WITH SECRETARY, FOLLOWING OCTOBER 16 LUNCHEON. OTHER PARTICIPANTS NOT YET DETERMINED.

F. EXCHANGE OF GIFTS - PROTOCOL OFFICER WILL DELIVER PRESIDENT'S GIFTS TO BLAIR HOUSE OCTOBER 16 AND WILL PICK UP BOLIVIAN GIFTS. GOB SHOULD NAME INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCEPTING PRESIDENT'S GIFTS FOR BANZER AND GIVING BOLIVIAN GIFTS TO PROTOCOL OFFICER.

G. OTHER ACTIVITIES - BOLIVIAN EMBASSY IS WORKING WITH IDB AND IBRD RE PENDING LOAN APPLICATIONS. WE WILL ENSURE SCHEDULE PROVIDES TIME FOR SIGNING CEREMONIES WITH IDB AND IBRD, BUT WISH TO KNOW IF BANZER PLANS TO PARTICIPATE. AMBASSADOR VALENCIA INDICATED THAT BANZER WOULD NOT HAVE DIRECT ROLE, AS THESE MATTERS WILL BE HANDLED BY

MEMBERS OF DELEGATION. WE WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION REGARDING BANZER'S WISHES SO WE MAY PROGRAM ACCORDINGLY. REGARDING EXIM, WE WILL BE HAPPY TO REQUEST MEETING, BUT DOUBT THAT IT WILL BEAR FRUIT AS LONG AS LAB LOAN IS IN DEFAULT. PLEASE CONFIRM THIS REQUEST.

H. PRESS CLUB - LUNCHEON NORMALLY STARTS PROMPTLY AT 12 NOON AND ENDS AT 2 PM.

I. OTHER MEETINGS - WE ARE PREPARED TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS WITH OTHER USG OFFICIALS BASED ON BOLIVIAN AGENDA. WE HAVE ASKED BOLIVIAN EMBASSY TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION AND A LIST OF USG OFFICIALS THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS EMBASSY MAY WISH TO MAKE.

J. EVENING RECEPTION - THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME CONFUSION AS TO SITE OF RECEPTION. AMBASSADOR VALENCIA ADVISES THAT HE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO USE PAN AMERICAN UNION. HE INDICATES HE WILL INVITE BOTH VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY. VICE PRESIDENT'S ATTENDANCE DEPENDS ON HIS OTHER COMMITMENTS.

K. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS - BOLIVIAN EMBASSY REPORTS IT WAS INSTRUCTED TO ARRANGE MRS. BANZER'S EXAMINATION AT JOHN HOPKINS. WE BELIEVE WALTER REED IS PREFERABLE FROM STANDPOINT OF SECURITY AND LOGISTICS, BUT REQUIRE CONFIRMATION BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH ARRANGEMENTS. FYI IT IS LIKELY THAT PRESIDENT AND MRS. BANZER WILL HAVE TO ENTER HOSPITAL ON OCTOBER 17 FOLLOWING RECEPTION AND THAT EXAMINATION WILL REQUIRE ENTIRE DAY OF OCTOBER 18. END FYI. CONFIDENTIAL

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WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION ON THIS DATE, IF REQUIRED. ALTERNATIVELY, THIS DATE MAY BE LEFT FREE FOR FURTHER GOB MEETINGS WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

L. SALT LAKE CITY - WE WILL PROGRAM ALONG LINES INDICATED REFTEL.

M. MIAMI - ABOVE PROGRAM WOULD BRING PARTY TO MIAMI EVENING OF OCTOBER 19, WITH DEPARTURE EARLY MORNING OF OCTOBER 21.

N. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES - WE NEED SOONEST FINAL CONFIRMATION ARRIVAL PLANS SO THAT WE MAY PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

2. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS, AS REFLECTED REFTEL, UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES FOLLOWING CABINET CRISIS. HOWEVER, WE HAVE URGENT NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS BANZER AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WILL WISH TO DISCUSS WHILE IN WASHINGTON. WE WOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL FOR ANYTHING EMBASSY CAN DO TO ENSURE GOB KEEPS BOLIVIAN EMBASSY FULLY APPRAISED OF BANZER'S PLANS AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS. RUSH

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